

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 11-16 are pending in the application. Claims 22-27 have been newly added. Claims 1,2 and 11-16 stand rejected. Claims 17-19 and 21 have been previously withdrawn and claim 20 previously cancelled.

Rejection of Claim 1 under 35 USC §103: Brandell over Richard and Renfroe and Doggett in view of Renfroe

Claim 1 stands rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Brandell in view of Richard and Renfroe and Doggett in view of Renfroe. The Examiner contends that Brandell and Doggett teach the steps of positioning production tubing; cementing above the production zone; and purging all cement. The Examiner contends that Richards teaches attaching production valves to production tubing and that Renfroe teaches pressure activated production valves.

Applicant has amended claim 1 herein to recite a method of producing a well wherein residual cement is purged from the tubing interior. The references separately or combined do not disclose or suggest such a step. Because at least this step is not disclosed or suggested by the prior art of record, Applicant submits that claim1 recites patentable subject matter.

Rejection of Claims 2, 11-16 under 35 USC §103: Brandell in view of Richard and Renfroe and Doggett in view of Renfroe

Claims 2 and 11-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Brandell in view of Richard and Renfroe and Doggett in view of Renfroe.

Applicant has amended claim 2 herein to recite a method of producing a well wherein residual cement is purged through the production valve. The references separately or combined do not disclose or suggest such a step. Because at least this step is not disclosed or suggested by the prior art of record, Applicant submits that claim2 recites patentable subject matter.

New Claims 22-27


New Claims 22-27 depend from either claims 1 or 2, both of which are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant believes that these claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and urges the Examiner to pass the case to issue. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **02-0429 (284-23258-USD)**.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 8, 2006


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I certify that this correspondence, along with any papers referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being transmitted by facsimile to the attention of Commissioner for Patents, Examiner John J. Kreck, facsimile number (571) 283-8300 on this 8th day of February 2006.


Margaret A. Pruitt